

WHAT IS CLAIMED

1. A magnetic recording medium comprising:
  - a magnetic disk having a data zone and a CSS zone and including:
    - a substrate, and
    - a magnetic film formed on said substrate and
    - a protective film formed thereon for the protection of said magnetic film and composed mainly of carbon, said protective film including a first portion overlying said CSS zone, and a second portion overlying said data zone,
    - said first portion of said protective film being composed mainly of carbon and nitrogen, and
    - said second portion of said protective film being composed mainly of not only carbon and nitrogen but also hydrogen for increasing the hardness of the protective film.